TRENDS

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ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, May 31, 1990 -- Carloadings originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended May 26 totaled 348,877, virtually the same as both the corresponding week of 1989 and the preceding week of 1990, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were up 2.9 percent in the West but down 2.4 percent in the East, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1989 week, coal loadings were up 5,726 cars (4.6 percent). Loadings of metallic ores were down 3,473 cars (14.9 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 21 weeks of 1990 totaled 7,140,028, up 0.2 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 118,650 trailers and/or containers for the week ended May 26, up 5.3 percent from the corresponding week of 1989.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 21 weeks of 1990 was 2,451,002 trailers and/or containers, 3.4 percent above the comparable 1989 total.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended May 26 totaled 20.4 billion, up 2.5 percent from the corresponding week of 1989. Cumulative volume for the first 21 weeks of 1990 was an estimated 415.2 billion ton-miles, up 1.4 percent from the comparable period of last year.

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 26, 1990

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP					
		COMPARISON WITH			
COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING MAY 26, 1990	SAME WEEK OF 1989	CHANGE	PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	27,127	26,574	2.1 %	26,798	1.2 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	1,862	1,575	18.2	1,888	-1.4
Metallic Ores	19,868	23,341	-14.9	20,233	-1.8
Coal	130,041	124,315	4.6	130,012	.0
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	17,321	16,860	2.7	17,250	.4
Nonmetallic Minerals	11,292	11,667	-3.2	10,306	9.6
Grain Mill Products	10,282	10,045	2.4	9,783	5.1
Food & Kindred Products	8,778	8,799	-.2	8,667	1.3
Primary Forest Products	9,697	10,590	-8.4	9,590	1.1
Lumber & Wood Products	6,685	7,534	-11.3	6,738	-.8
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,755	10,724	.3	10,953	-1.8
Chemicals	27,896	26,995	3.3	27,662	.8
Petroleum Products	5,222	5,562	-6.1	5,157	1.3
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	10,368	11,146	-7.0	10,763	-3.7
Coke	5,699	5,417	5.2	6,016	-5.3
Metals & Products	9,997	9,939	.6	10,141	-1.4
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	20,127	20,485	-1.7	20,944	-3.9
Waste & Scrap Materials	9,135	9,391	-2.7	9,059	.8
All Other Carloads	6,725	8,062	-16.6	7,063	-4.8
Total	348,877	349,021	.0 %	349,023	.0 %

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES						
	WEEK ENDING MAY 26, 1990			CUMULATIVE: 21 WEEKS ENDING MAY 26, 1990		
TRAFFIC	1990	1989	CHANGE	1990	1989	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	348,877	349,021	.0 %	7,140,028	7,126,726	.2 %
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	67,343	66,646	1.0	1,388,213	1,385,628	.2
Containers	51,307	46,083	11.3	1,062,789	985,362	7.9
Total	118,650	112,729	5.3	2,451,002	2,370,990	3.4
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	20.4	19.9	2.5 %	415.2	409.6	1.4 %